

**House Criminal Justice Committee**

**November 19, 2015**

**House Bills 4833 and 4834**

**Jacquelyn Davis, MSU Medical Student**

Good morning everyone. My name is Jacquelyn Davis and I am a medical student at the Michigan State College of Human Medicine. Representative Laura Cox has sponsored two method ban bills that would be detrimental to women and physicians, so I ask that you oppose these bills.

In medical school, we learn that it is the duty of a physician to do no harm. We are trained to take many different factors into account in order to figure out what course of action would be the best for a patient. Having the ability to choose an individualized plan is very important, but what happens when politicians make laws that prohibit our chosen method? As a future doctor, this would force me to potentially do great harm to patients who are at higher risk for poor outcomes with the methods that remain legal. It would force me to provide substandard care. I would not want to practice in a state that ignores my medical training to implement harmful healthcare policies and punishes me for providing access to essential care for my patients.

The patient-physician relationship is extremely important for all aspects of healthcare. It creates an environment where people trust their doctors and are more likely to come in and receive treatment. Making laws that intrude into that relationship can cause a breach of trust and affect healthcare on a multitude of levels. As politicians, it is important that you truly understand how the bills you propose could affect the community. This bill will not cause a decrease in abortions. It will cause women to experience poorer health outcomes. It will cause patients to shy away from their doctors as the healthcare system becomes politicized rather than evidence based. It will cause future physicians like me to be punished for providing care. Doctors attend school for many years so that they know how to provide the best medical care possible; politicians do not. I ask that you oppose this bill so that when I am a practicing physician, I have access to all methods and can safely care for my patients. Thank you for your time.